

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRANSFER OF EDITORIAL OFFICE
on January 1, 2000
to
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*All new manuscripts
submitted after October 1, 1999
should be directed
to*

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THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THORACIC SURGERY

Announcement of 2000 Annual Meeting

The Eightieth Annual Meeting of The American Association for Thoracic Surgery will be held April 30–May 3, 2000, in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, at the Toronto Convention Centre. Headquarters for the meeting will be the Royal York Hotel. The meeting of the Association is open to all physicians. House Officers and Fellows will be admitted without payment of a registration fee upon presentation of a letter from their Chief of Service either during pre-registration or at the time of registration. Nonmember physicians will be required to pay a \$250 registration fee. Members, nonmember physicians, and invited speakers will have the privilege of discussing papers.

Requests for preregistration forms and hotel reservations

Information on the 2000 Annual Meeting, including registration, hotel accommodations, and the social program, will be available in January of 2000. Requests should be forwarded directly to:

American Association for Thoracic Surgery
Thirteen Elm Street
Manchester, MA 01944
(978) 526-8330; fax (978) 526-7521;
e-mail: aats@prri.com

Registration and hotel information will be available on our website at aats.org.

Call for abstracts

Authors submitting abstracts for the 2000 Annual Meeting must use electronic submission. Abstracts submitted electronically for consideration for presentation at the 2000 meeting must have been received on or before **October 18, 1999**. Abstracts received after the deadline will not be considered by the Program Committee. The work must not have been presented or reported elsewhere.

Electronic submission

Deadline for submission was **October 18, 1999**. Please submit your abstract either on diskette or via the world wide web. AATS will provide a diskette in either MS Windows or MAC or you may download the diskette software at [www.aats.org/annual meeting/abstract submission](http://www.aats.org/annual%20meeting/abstract%20submission). The electronic submission diskette contains all

necessary instructions and you may copy the diskette to submit more than one abstract or share with a colleague. All abstract submissions must be in the structured format as required by *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. The structured abstract is to contain the following major headings: *Objective(s)*, *Methods*, *Results*, and *Conclusions*, and it should clearly reflect the content of the completed paper. No reference should be made on the abstract to the names or institutions of the authors.

Receipt of each abstract will be acknowledged by e-mail, fax, or mail. Notification of the decision of the Program Committee will be distributed by January 15, 2000.

Essayists selected for the program are reminded that papers presented at the meeting are to be submitted for consideration for publication to *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and must be handed to the Chair immediately prior to their presentation.

C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum

The C. Walton Lillehei Resident Forum will be held on Tuesday morning, May 2, 2000. Made possible through an educational grant from St Jude Medical, the Forum will consist of the presentation of original work by residents in thoracic surgical training programs in North America. Abstracts submitted for the award should follow the guidelines of abstract submission for electronic submission noted above. The abstracts submitted for consideration for this Forum will be evaluated by the Program Committee and eight will be selected for presentation during the forum. Each of the selected authors will receive round-trip travel and accommodations for the duration of the AATS annual meeting. Additionally, one presentation will be selected by the Program Committee to receive the AATS C. Walton Lillehei Residents' Award, a \$5000 prize. Thoracic Surgery Program Directors are urged to have their residents participate in this Forum.

Abstract Deadline—Abstracts received after the deadline will not be considered

Electronic Submission: October 18, 1999

Applications for membership

Applications for membership in the Association must have been received by the Membership Committee Chairman no later than October 1, 1999. Applications received after that date will be deferred automatically for consideration until the 2001 meeting.

Applicants must be sponsored by three Active or Senior Members of the Association who are not members of the Membership Committee. Members should write the Chairman of the Membership Committee

requesting that an application form be sent to the candidate. Requests may be sent to:

Chairman, Membership Committee
American Association for Thoracic Surgery
Thirteen Elm Street
Manchester, MA 01944
(978) 526-8330; fax (978) 526-4018;
e-mail: aats@prri.com

Tirone E. David, MD, Secretary

THE WESTERN THORACIC SURGICAL ASSOCIATION

Announcement of 2000 Annual Meeting

The Twenty-sixth Annual Meeting of The Western Thoracic Surgical Association will be held June 21-24, 2000, at The Orchid at Mauna Lani, Island of Hawaii. The scientific sessions are open to all duly qualified physicians. Participation in other Association activities for members, invited guests, and program participants will require payment of a social registration fee. Nonmember physicians will be required to pay a scientific registration fee of \$200 in addition to the social registration fee.

Requests for meeting information

Meeting preregistration and hotel registration forms are available from:

The Western Thoracic Surgical Association
Thirteen Elm Street
Manchester, Massachusetts 01944
(978) 526-8330; fax (978) 526-7521

Material for the program

Scientific papers will be considered from members and nonmembers. Member sponsorship is not necessary. Abstracts of proposed papers must have been received by the Program Chairman on or before January 12, 2000, and must have been accompanied by a Transmittal of Abstract Form.

All abstracts submitted must be in the structured format as required by *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery*. The structured abstract is to contain the following major headings: *Objective(s)*, *Methods*, *Results*, and *Conclusions*, and should clearly reflect the content of the completed paper. No reference should be made on the abstract to the names or institutions of the authors. Abstracts must represent unpublished work not previously presented at a major scientific meeting. Unless specified otherwise, the first named author will receive correspondence, give a ten-minute presentation of the paper, and close the discussion. Instructions and Abstract Transmittal Forms are available from:

Chairman, Program Committee
The Western Thoracic Surgical Association
Thirteen Elm Street
Manchester, Massachusetts 01944
(978) 526-8330

Successful essayists must deliver the complete manuscript at the time of presentation. The manuscript must be in a form acceptable to *The Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery* and must not exceed 3000 words without illustrations. The essay length must be reduced appropriately when figures or tables are included.

Samson Resident Prize Essay

The Association offers a prize for the best manuscript on a topic of interest to thoracic surgeons in honor of Paul C. Samson, MD. Candidates for the prize must be in a training program in the United States or Canada. The one essayist whose abstract, manuscript, and presentation are judged most outstanding will receive a \$2000 cash award following the presentation of all papers in Hawaii. The conditions for abstract submission, presentation, and publication as described above will apply. In addition, the *Samson Resident Prize Essay* box in the lower left hand corner of the form should be checked. A covering letter from the Chief of Service of the training program indicating the individual's year of training and the proportion of the work performed by the resident must be submitted. The authors of the abstracts chosen for the program will make up the finalists and will be notified by February 11, 2000, that they must submit *six completed manuscripts for review by the Prize Essay Committee*. The Prize Essay committee will make its selection following the presentation of all papers.

Application for membership

Applications for membership in the Association must have been received by the Membership Committee Chairman no later than March 1, 2000, to be considered at the following annual meeting. Applicants must be sponsored by three members of the Association who are not members of the Membership Committee. Application forms will be issued only to sponsoring members.

Address correspondence to:

Chairman, Membership Committee
The Western Thoracic Surgical Association
Thirteen Elm Street
Manchester, Massachusetts 01944
(978) 526-8330; fax (978) 526-4018

Vaughn A. Starnes, MD, Secretary

THE AMERICAN BOARD OF THORACIC SURGERY

Notices

The Part I (written) examination will be held at the Hotel Sofitel, 5550 North River Road, Rosemont, Illinois 60018-5194, on November 19, 2000. The closing date for registration is August 1, 2000. Those wishing to be considered for examination must request an application since it is not automatically sent.

To be admissible for the Part II (oral) examination, a candidate must have successfully completed the Part I (written) examination.

A candidate applying for admission to the certifying examination must fulfill all the requirements of the Board in force at the time the application is received. Please address all communications to the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, One Rotary Center, Suite 803, Evanston, Illinois 60201 (telephone: 847-475-1520).

New Requirements for Recertification in the Year 2001

Diplomates of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery who plan to participate in the recertification process within the next few years should pay particular attention to this notice, since the requirements will change effective in the year 2001.

In addition to an active medical license and institutional clinical privileges in thoracic surgery, beginning in 2001, a valid certificate will be an absolute requirement for entrance into the recertification process. If your certificate has expired, the only pathway for renewal of a certificate will be to take and pass the Part I (written) and the Part II (oral) certifying examinations.

In 2001, the American Board of Thoracic Surgery will no longer publish the names of individuals who have not recertified. In the past, a designation of "NR" (not recertified) was used in the American Board of Medical Specialties directories if a Diplomate had not recertified. The Diplomate's name will be published upon successful completion of the recertification process.

The CME requirements will also change in 2001. The new CME requirements will be 70 Category I credits in either cardiothoracic surgery or general surgery earned during the 2 years prior to applying for recertification. SESATS and SESAPS will be the only self-instructional material allowed for credit. No Category II credits will be allowed. The Physicians Recognition Award for recertifying in general surgery will not be accepted in fulfillment of the CME requirement for recertification. The preceding information only partially outlines the CME requirements. Interested individuals should refer

to the 1999 *Booklet of Information* for a complete description of acceptable CME credits.

Diplomates should maintain a documented list of their major cases performed during the year prior to application for recertification. This practice review should consist of 1 year's consecutive major operative experiences. If more than 100 cases occur in 1 year, only 100 should be listed.

Candidates for recertification will be required to complete both the general thoracic and the cardiac portions of the SESATS self-assessment examination. It is not necessary for candidates to purchase SESATS prior to applying for recertification since SESATS will be sent to candidates after their application has been approved.

Diplomates may recertify up to 3 years before the expiration of their certificate. Their new certificate will be dated 10 years from the time of expiration of their original certificate or most recent recertification certificate. In other words, recertifying early does not alter the 10-year validation.

Recertification is also open to Diplomates with an unlimited certificate and will in no way affect the validity of their original certificate.

The deadline for submission of applications for the recertification process is May 1 each year. A recertification brochure outlining the rules and requirements for recertification in thoracic surgery is available upon request from the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, One Rotary Center, Suite 803, Evanston, Illinois 60201 (telephone: 847-475-1520; fax: 847-475-6240; e-mail: abts_evanston@msn.com).